

Weekly Provider Q & A

What is the minimum interval between doses of seasonal LAIV and 2009 H1N1 LAIV?

The ACIP General Recommendations on live attenuated vaccines indicates that 28 days (4 weeks) is the recommended minimum interval, and can be applied to use of a seasonal LAIV and a 2009 H1N1 LAIV, because these are considered 2 different vaccines.

Can a child who requires 2 doses of a 2009 H1N1 vaccine and who received the first dose with a inactivated 2009 H1N1 vaccine complete the series with the 2009 H1N1 LAIV, or vice versa?

When feasible, the same type of vaccine (live attenuated or inactivated) should be used in a two dose schedule, but mixed schedules are preferable to not completing the series. A 28 day interval between doses is recommended.

Can the nasal-spray flu vaccine be given to patients when they are ill?

The nasal-spray flu vaccine can be given to people with minor illnesses (e.g., diarrhea or mild upper respiratory tract infection with or without fever). However, if nasal congestion is present that might limit delivery of the vaccine to the nasal lining, then delaying of vaccination until the nasal congestion is reduced should be considered.

Can a pregnant woman on daily baby ASA therapy be given the flu vaccine?

Yes. It is important for a pregnant woman to receive both the 2009 H1N1 flu shot and the seasonal flu shot. The live attenuated flu vaccine (LAIV) is contraindicated in pregnant women. Pregnant women should receive the injectable flu vaccines.

Can a child on a daily baby ASA therapy be given the flu vaccine?

Yes. All children should receive both seasonal and H1N1 flu vaccines. It is especially important for children with chronic medical conditions to receive these vaccines. The live attenuate nasal vaccine is contraindicated in children on chronic aspirin therapy, however. These children should receive the inactivated injectable form of the vaccine.

Should doses of H1N1 vaccine be held for pediatric patients who will need a second dose?

No. The 2009 H1N1 vaccine will continue to be manufactured and distributed on a regular basis. There will be enough to complete the series eventually. Do not hold back doses.